

"(3) HUBZONE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration to carry out the program under section 31, \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1998.";

(2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

"(3) HUBZONE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration to carry out the program under section 31, \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1999.";

(3) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

"(3) HUBZONE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration to carry out the program under section 31, \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.".

TITLE VII—SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS

SEC. 701. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are—

(1) to foster enhanced entrepreneurship among eligible veterans by providing increased opportunities;

(2) to vigorously promote the legitimate interests of small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans; and

(3) to ensure that those concerns receive fair consideration in purchases made by the Federal Government.

SEC. 702. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) **ELIGIBLE VETERAN.**—The term "eligible veteran" means a disabled veteran (as defined in section 4211(3) of title 38, United States Code).

(2) **SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY ELIGIBLE VETERANS.**—The term "small business concern owned and controlled by eligible veterans" means a small business concern (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act)—

(A) that is at least 51 percent owned by 1 or more eligible veterans, or in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by 1 or more eligible veterans; and

(B) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by eligible veterans.

SEC. 703. REPORT BY SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **STUDY AND REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall conduct a comprehensive study and submit to the Committees a final report containing findings and recommendations of the Administrator on—

(A) the needs of small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans;

(B) the availability and utilization of Administration programs by small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans;

(C) the percentage, and dollar value, of Federal contracts awarded to small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans in the preceding 5 fiscal years; and

(D) methods to improve Administration and other agency programs to serve the needs of small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The report under paragraph (1) shall include recommendations to Congress concerning the need for legislation and recommendations to the Office of Management and Budget, relevant offices within the Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) **CONDUCT OF STUDY.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator—

(1) may conduct surveys of small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans and service disabled veterans, including those who have sought financial assistance or other services from the Administration;

(2) shall consult with the appropriate committees of Congress, relevant groups and or-

ganizations in the nonprofit sector, and Federal or State government agencies; and

(3) shall have access to any information within other Federal agencies that pertains to such veterans and their small businesses, unless such access is specifically prohibited by law.

SEC. 704. INFORMATION COLLECTION.

After the date of issuance of the report required by section 703(a), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training and the Administrator, engage in efforts each fiscal year to identify small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans in the United States. The Secretary shall inform each small business concern identified under this section that information on Federal procurement is available from the Administrator.

SEC. 705. STATE OF SMALL BUSINESS REPORT.

Section 303(b) of the Small Business Economic Policy Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 631b(b)) is amended by striking "and female-owned businesses" and inserting "female-owned, and veteran-owned businesses".

SEC. 706. LOANS TO VETERANS.

Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

"(8) The Administration may make loans under this subsection to small business concerns owned and controlled by disabled veterans (as defined in section 4211(3) of title 38, United States Code)."

SEC. 707. ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING, COUNSELING, AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.

The Administrator shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans have access to programs established under the Small Business Act that provide entrepreneurial training, business development assistance, counseling, and management assistance to small business concerns, including, among others, the Small Business Development Center program and the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) program.

SEC. 708. GRANTS FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

Section 8(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (15), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in the first paragraph designated as paragraph (16), by striking the period at the end and inserting "and"; and

(3) by striking the second paragraph designated as paragraph (16) and inserting the following:

"(17) to make grants to, and enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with, educational institutions, private businesses, veterans' nonprofit community-based organizations, and Federal, State, and local departments and agencies for the establishment and implementation of outreach programs for disabled veterans (as defined in section 4211(3) of title 38, United States Code)."

SEC. 709. OUTREACH FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS.

The Administrator, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, shall develop and implement a program of comprehensive outreach to assist eligible veterans, which program shall include business training and management assistance, employment and relocation counseling, and dissemination of information on veterans' benefits and veterans' entitlements.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, recognized Mr. TALENT and Mr. LAFALCE, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said amendment?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said amendment to the amendment the house was agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶130.15 MICROCREDIT FOR SELF-RELIANCE

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1129) to establish a program to provide assistance for programs of credit and other assistance for microenterprises in developing countries, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. GEJDENSON, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GILMAN demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶130.16 RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN GERMANY

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 22); as amended:

Whereas since World War II, Germany has been a friend and ally of the United States;

Whereas German government discrimination against members of minority religious groups, particularly against United States citizens, has the potential to harm the relationship between Germany and the United States;

Whereas artists from the United States associated with certain religious minorities have been denied the opportunity to perform, have been the subjects of boycotts, and have been the victims of a widespread and well-documented pattern and practice of discrimination by German Federal, State, local, and party officials;

Whereas the 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights in Germany all noted government discrimination against members of the Church of Scientology in Germany;

Whereas the German State of Baden-Wuerttemberg barred Chic Corea, the Grammy Award-winning American jazz pianist, from performing his music during the

World Athletics Championship in 1993, and in 1996 the State of Bavaria declared its intention to bar Mr. Corea from all future performances at State sponsored events solely because he is a member of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas the Young Union of the Christian Democratic Union and the Social Democratic Party orchestrated boycotts of the movies "Phenomenon" and "Mission Impossible" solely because the lead actors, Americans John Travolta and Tom Cruise, are members of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas members of the Young Union of the Christian Democratic Union disrupted a 1993 performance by the American folk music group Golden Bough by storming the stage solely because the musicians are members of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas the Evangelical Christian Church of Cologne, led by an American clergyman, Dr. Terry Jones, had its tax-exempt status revoked by the German government with the reason being that the church benefits to society were of "no spiritual, cultural, or material value";

Whereas the German government is constitutionally obligated to remain neutral on religious matters, yet has violated this neutrality by supporting and distributing information to the general public that gives the impression that "sect-experts", who are only critical of all but the major churches, are in a position to provide the public with fair, objective, and politically neutral information about minority religions;

Whereas the Jehovah's Witnesses' application for recognition as a corporation under public law, which would have put them on equal legal status with the Catholic and Protestant churches, was denied by the Federal Administrative Court because the church's doctrine of political neutrality was considered to be antidemocratic;

Whereas government officials and "sect-experts" are using the decision denying the Jehovah's Witnesses recognition as a corporation under public law as a justification for discriminatory acts against the Jehovah's Witnesses, despite the fact that a constitutional complaint is still pending before the German Constitutional Court;

Whereas adherents of the Muslim faith have reported that they are routinely subject to police violence and intimidation because of their ethnic and religious affiliation;

Whereas the 1994 and 1995 Reports to the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations on the application of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion and Belief by the Special Rapporteur for Religious Intolerance criticized Germany for restricting the religious liberty of certain minority religious groups;

Whereas Germany, as a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Helsinki Accords, is obliged to refrain from religious discrimination and to foster a climate of tolerance; and

Whereas Germany's policy of discrimination against minority religions violates German obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Helsinki Accords: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) continues to hold Germany responsible for protecting the rights of United States citizens who are living, performing, doing business, or traveling in Germany, in a manner consistent with Germany's obligations under international agreements to which Germany is a signatory;

(2) deplors the actions and statements of Federal, State, local, and party officials in

Germany which have fostered an atmosphere of intolerance toward certain minority religious groups;

(3) expresses concern that artists from the United States who are members of minority religious groups continue to experience German government discrimination;

(4) urges the German government to take the action necessary to protect the rights guaranteed to members of minority religious groups by international covenants to which Germany is a signatory; and

(5) calls upon the President of the United States—

(A) to assert the concern of the United States Government regarding German government discrimination against members of minority religious groups;

(B) to emphasize that the United States regards the human rights practices of the Government of Germany, particularly its treatment of American citizens who are living, performing, doing business, or traveling in Germany, as a significant factor in the United States Government's relations with the Government of Germany; and

(C) to encourage other governments to appeal to the Government of Germany, and to cooperate with other governments and international organizations, including the United Nations and its agencies, in efforts to protect the rights of foreign citizens and members of minority religious groups in Germany.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATHAM, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. BEREUTER, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

On a division demanded by Mr. BEREUTER, there appeared, yeas—3, nays—12.

Mr. SALMON demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶130.17 EXPO 2000

Mr. BEREUTER moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 139); as amended:

Whereas Germany has invited nations, international and non-governmental organizations, and individuals from around the world to participate in EXPO 2000, a global town hall meeting to be hosted in the year 2000, in Hanover, Germany, for the purpose providing a forum for worldwide dialogue on the challenges, goals, and solutions for the sustainable development of mankind in the 21st century;

Whereas the theme of EXPO 2000 is "Humankind-Nature-Technology";

Whereas EXPO 2000 will take place in the heart of the newly unified, free, and democratic Europe;

Whereas Germany has established a stable democracy and a pluralistic society in the heart of Europe;

Whereas more than 40,000,000 people in the United States can trace their ancestry to

Germany, and in 1983 the United States and Germany celebrated the Tri-Centennial of immigration of Germans into the United States;

Whereas Germany has been a close political and military ally of the United States for nearly five decades and has been a driving force with respect to the political, monetary, and economic integration of Europe;

Whereas the United States, as a leading political, intellectual, and economic power, maintains a strong interest in the worldwide strengthening of political freedom and human rights, open market economies, and technological advancement throughout the world; and

Whereas the United States is eager to share with the global community the vast and promising public and private efforts being made to prepare for the next century; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the United States—

(1) should fully participate in EXPO 2000, a global town hall meeting to be hosted in the year 2000, in Hanover, Germany, for the purpose of providing a forum for worldwide dialogue on the challenges, goals, and solutions for the sustainable development of mankind in the 21st century; and

(2) should encourage the academic community and the private sector in the United States to support this worthwhile undertaking.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, recognized Mr. BEREUTER and Mr. PAYNE, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BEREUTER demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶130.18 FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 830) "An Act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the regulation of food, drugs, devices, and biological products, and for other purposes."

¶130.19 H.R. 2232—UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, announced the unfinished business to be the question on the passage of the bill (H.R. 2232) to provide for increased international broadcasting activities to China.

The question being put,

Will the House pass said bill?